

Dream Homes Community Center

To: Mayor Mark Boughton and the Common Council

From: Nikki Singer, Homeless/Housing Advocate

Re: May 2011 Monthly Report

cc: ARC Executive Director, ARC Board of Directors, and
DHCC Consultant/Jean Bowen

I. Program Synopsis

Per the proposal endorsed by Mayor Boughton and the Common Council, Dream Homes Community Center (DHCC) was established at ARC to serve as the Point of Entry for people who are homeless or low-income renters and to facilitate first time home ownership for people with hard to serve backgrounds.

II. Homelessness Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing Program

In 2009 ARC secured a grant which is bringing **\$205,632 to the Danbury area**, over 3 years, through the stimulus program called “Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing” (**HPRP**): to help end and prevent homelessness for the people of Danbury by providing financial assistance through *security deposits, rental assistance, motel vouchers, and moving or storage costs*.

Since October 2009, we have provided a total of **\$29,790** in grants to end homelessness for **12 individuals** and **10 families** and **\$60,392** in grants to prevent homelessness for **27 individuals** and **28 families**.

In May 2011, we provided **\$5,345** in HPRP grants to 3 families and 2 individuals. Some of the financial highlights of the HPRP grants that were awarded this month:

May HPRP Grants

Re-Housing:

- **\$1,020** Security Deposit – to secure housing for a single father and his daughter who had become homeless after the death of his wife
- **\$1,500** Security Deposit – to secure housing for a homeless Veteran receiving a VASH voucher for supportive housing
- **\$400** Rent Subsidy – to help a family who had moved out of a domestic violence shelter continue to maintain their rent while the mother finishes a nursing degree.

Homelessness Prevention:

- **\$1,425** Security Deposit – to secure housing for young couple, their sister and nephew who had become homeless after an eviction
- **\$1,000** Security Deposit – to secure new housing for a young woman who was doubled – up with family and had been awarded a Section 8 Voucher

III. Point of Entry

From July 1, 2010 until May 27, 2011, DHCC has provided services to **736 people (500 people in families with children and 236 adults without children)** through the Point of Entry at ARC. The following is a breakdown of people served, by towns within the Greater Danbury Area:

Town	July 2009 – June 2010	July 2010 – May 2011
Danbury	552	490
Bethel	61	29
Brookfield	9	32
New Fairfield	22	10
New Milford	67	67
Newtown	11	13
Redding	3	6
Ridgefield	12	6
Sherman	3	9
Other Towns	15	65
Total	737	736

IV. Program Highlights

Harry, a Veteran, has been homeless for one and one-half years. He had been incarcerated and is still on probation, which created a barrier to both employment and housing opportunities. In the fall of 2010, he made an appointment with DHCC's Homeless/Housing Advocate to explore his options for permanent housing. After reviewing all available resources, the Homeless/Housing Advocate helped Harry to complete an application for a VASH Voucher – a rental subsidy through the Veteran's Administration which would include support services to help Harry succeed.

Harry would need to have a clinician support his referral to qualify for support services. The Homeless/Housing Advocate contacted Harry's therapist to explain the program and what the therapist's role would be in helping Harry to secure the voucher. The therapist agreed to support Harry's application and completed the necessary information for the application to be submitted to the VA.

Over the next few months, the Homeless/Housing Advocate was in regular contact with representatives of the VASH program to get updates on Harry's application. It would be a few months before any new vouchers would be issued.

Harry was approved for a VASH voucher in May 2011. He was able to get referrals for apartments through Dream Homes as well as completing an application for financial assistance with a security deposit, through the Homelessness Prevention and Re-Housing Program.

By the end of May, Harry was able to move into a new apartment with his voucher. Harry received an ARC Angel "Welcome Basket" and kitchenware through ARC. Now that he has permanent housing he is focused on securing permanent employment and continuing to increase his economic stability.

v. **HMIS Report – Dream Homes May 1 – 31, 2011**

2. Persons Served during the operating year.	Number of Singles Not in Families	Number of Adults in Families	Number of Children in Families	Number of Families
a. Number on the first day of the operating year.	15	10	16	9
b. Number entering program during the operating year.	7	5	3	3
c. Number who left the program during the operating year.	7	3	2	2
d. Number in the program on the last day of the operating year. (a+b-c=d)	15	12	17	10
3. Project Capacity.	Number of Singles Not in Families	Number of Adults in Families	Number of Children in Families	Number of Families
a. Number on last day (from 2d, columns 1 and 4)	15			10
4. Non-homeless persons. (Sec. 8 SRO projects only)				
How many income-eligible non-homeless persons were housed by the SRO program during the operating year?				45
5. Age and Gender. Of those who entered during the operating year, how many people are in the following age and gender categories?				
	Age	Male	Female	Other/Not given
Single Persons (from 2b, column 1)	a. 62 and over	3	0	0
	b. 51 - 61	3	0	0
	c. 31 - 50	0	0	0
	d. 18 - 30	0	1	0
	e. 17 and under	0	0	0
	Not given	0	0	0
Persons in Families (from 2b, columns 2 & 3)	f. 62 and over	0	0	0
	g. 51 - 61	0	0	0

	h. 31 - 50	0	0	0
	i. 18 - 30	2	3	0
	j. 13 - 17	0	0	0
	k. 6 - 12	0	0	0
	l. 1 - 5	1	1	0
	m. Under 1	1	0	0
	Not given	0	0	0

6 - 10. Participants who entered during the operating year.

6a. Veterans Status.

A veteran is anyone who has ever been on active military duty status. 4

6b. Chronically Homeless.

How many participants were chronically homeless individuals? 4

7. Ethnicity.

a. Hispanic or Latino 0

b. Non-Hispanic or Non-Latino 12

8. Race.

a. American Indian or Alaskan Native 0

b. Asian 0

c. Black or African American 4

d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander 0

e. White 8

f. American Indian/Alaskan Native & White 0

g. Asian & White 0

h. Black/African American & White 0

i. American Indian/Alaskan Native & Black/African American 0

j. Other Multi-Racial 0

k. Other/Unknown (all that do not match) 0

9a. Special Needs.

	All	Chronic
a. Mental illness	2	2
b. Alcohol abuse	0	0
c. Drug abuse	0	0
d. HIV/AIDS or related diseases	0	0
e. Developmental disability	0	0
f. Physical disability	3	2

g. Domestic violence	0	0		
h. Other (please specify)	0	0		
9b. Disabled.				
How many of the participants are disabled?		4		
10. Prior Living Situation. Participants slept in the following places the week prior to entering.				
	All	Chronic		
a. Non-housing (street, park, car, bus station, etc.)	1	1		
b. Emergency shelter	3	3		
c. Transitional housing for homeless persons	1			
d. Psychiatric facility	0			
e. Substance abuse treatment facility	1			
f. Hospital	0			
g. Jail/prison	0			
h. Domestic violence situation	0			
i. Living with relatives/friends	2			
j. Rental housing	0			
k. Other (please specify)	4			
11. Amount and Source of Monthly Income at Entry and Exit. Participants who left during the operating year.				
Amount	A. Monthly Income at Entry		B. Monthly Income at Exit	
	All	Chronic	All	Chronic
a. No Income	5	0	5	0
b. \$1-150	0	0	0	0
c. \$151 - \$250	0	0	0	0
d. \$251 - \$500	3	1	2	1
e. \$501 - \$1000	0	0	0	0
f. \$1001 - \$1500	0	0	0	0
g. \$1501 - \$2000	1	0	2	0
h. \$2000 +	1	0	1	0
Source	C. Income Sources at Entry		D. Income Sources at Exit	
	All	Chronic	All	Chronic
a. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	0	0	0	0

b. Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)	0	0	0	0
c. Social Security	0	0	0	0
d. General Public Assistance	0	0	0	0
e. Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF)	0	0	0	0
f. State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP)	0	0	0	0
g. Veterans benefits	0	0	0	0
h. Employment Income	2	0	3	0
i. Unemployment Benefits	2	1	2	1
j. Veteran's Health Care	0	0	0	0
k. Medicaid	0	0	0	0
l. Food Stamps	4	1	4	1
m. Other (please specify)	0	0	0	0
n. No financial resources	6	0	5	0

12a. Length of Stay in Program. Participants who left during the operating year.

	All	Chronic
a. Less than 1 month	6	1
b. 1 to 2 months	4	0
c. 3 - 6 months	0	0
d. 7 months - 12 months	0	0
e. 13 months - 24 months	0	0
f. 25 months - 3 years	0	0
g. 4 years - 5 years	0	0
h. 6 years - 7 years	0	0
i. 8 years - 10 years	0	0
j. over 10 years	0	0

12b. Length of Stay in Program. Participants who did not leave during the operating year.

	All	Chronic
a. Less than 1 month	7	3
b. 1 to 2 months	11	1
c. 3 - 6 months	6	0
d. 7 months - 12 months	2	1
e. 13 months - 24 months	1	0

f. 25 months - 3 years	0	0	
g. 4 years - 5 years	0	0	
h. 6 years - 7 years	0	0	
i. 8 years - 10 years	0	0	
j. over 10 years	0	0	
13. Reasons for Leaving. Participants who left during the operating year.			
	All	Chronic	
a. Left for a housing opportunity before completing program	0	0	
b. Completed program	10	1	
c. Non-payment of rent/occupancy charge	0	0	
d. Non-compliance with project	0	0	
e. Criminal activity / destruction of property / violence	0	0	
f. Reached maximum time allowed in project	0	0	
g. Needs could not be met by project	0	0	
h. Disagreement with rules/persons	0	0	
i. Death	0	0	
j. Other (please specify)	0	0	
k. Unknown/disappeared	0	0	
14. Destination. Participants who left during the operating year.			
	All	Chronic	
PERMANENT (a - h)	a. Rental house or apartment (no subsidy)	2	0
	b. Public Housing	0	0
	c. Section 8	0	0
	d. Shelter Plus Care	1	0
	e. HOME subsidized house or apartment	0	0
	f. Other subsidized house or apartment	0	0
	g. Homeownership	0	0
	h. Moved in with family or friends	0	0
TRANSITIONAL (i - j)	i. Transitional housing for homeless persons	0	0
	j. Moved in with family or friends	2	0
INSTITUTION (k - m)	k. Psychiatric hospital	0	0
	l. Inpatient alcohol/drug treatment facility	0	0
	m. Jail/prison	0	0
EMERGENCY SHELTER	n. Emergency shelter	2	1

(n)			
OTHER (o - q)	o. Other supportive housing	0	0
	p. Places not meant for human habitation (e.g. street)	0	0
	q. Other (please specify)	1	0
UNKNOWN	r. Unknown	2	0

15. Supportive Services. Participants who left during the operating year.

NOTE:The below services were given to participants who left during the operating year. Add the following counts into the appropriate category for question 15.

	Service	Service Code	All	Chronic
1.	Housing Counseling	BH-3700	3	0
2.	Rental Deposit Assistance	BH-3800.7250	1	0
3.	Transitional Housing/Shelter	BH-8600	1	1
4.	Personal Finances/Budget Counseling	DD-5000.6500	2	0